

TILLMAN ON TRIAL.

The Arraignment of the Man Who Killed Editor Gonzales.

THE JURY QUICKLY SECURED.

The Prisoner, When Placed in the Box, Pleads "Not Guilty" to the Charge of Murder in a Firm Voice.

James H. Tillman, some time lieutenant governor of South Carolina and charged with the murder of N. G. Gonzales, editor of The State, on the 15th of January last, a few days before the expiration of his term of office, was Monday placed on trial for his life, at Lexington, S. C.

The arraignment in the court room, which far from crowding, scarcely realized for a moment that the trial would actually begin, so frequent have been the predictions of further delay. Two sessions courts have intervened in Richland since the homicide, the defense obtaining continuances at both and a change of venue at the last. Again the spectators were agreeably disappointed when a jury was secured by 1.15 p. m. from the original panel. It would have been secured in half an hour save for the contest over Murray Parnell.

When the court convened at 10 a. m. the counsel for the prisoner were present as follows: G. W. Croft, P. H. Nelson, O. W. Buchanan, George Johnston, Edith & Dreher, W. H. Sharpe, G. R. Graham, J. L. Ashill and L. T. Sturkie. The prisoner's counsel, Mrs. D. D. Tillman, his wife and several lady friends, were in the court room most of the day. Senator Tillman was present.

THE FIRST MOVE.

Attorney Graham, as soon as the judge entered, presented a copy of The State in hand and said, "I think it my duty to call to the court's attention an article entitled 'Juggery With the Courts,' which appeared in this issue of the State. We are here for the trial of this case and such matter is not proper or relevant to it."

Judge Gary, after a moment's reflection, said: "I consider myself a member of the Lexington bar and I have heard nothing of a statement on the part of the prisoner's counsel. Judge Gary—it would not be proper to hear the statement unless it comes from the whole bar. I so rule."

Mr. Sharpe remarked that it came from the majority of the Lexington bar.

SWEARING THE JURY.

Nearly if not all the jurymen were placed on their voir dire, and, without exception, they swore that they were free of all bias or prejudice, and conscious of no bias for or against the prisoner, an attitude remarked by some as singular in its unanimity, considering the wide publicity the case had received. After Parnell had answered the usual questions the solicitor inquired if he had a registration certificate. He replied affirmatively. The solicitor showed the clerk of court, George and introduced the county register, and on them Parnell's name did not appear.

A lengthy argument ensued. The defense presented testimony that the original registration books had been lost or not returned when used in an election concerning the annexation of a part of this county to Richland county.

Messrs. Croft and Johnston argued that the name might have been omitted from the books and the State having propounded the question, the juror dire had waived the right to appeal to the books as the highest evidence.

STOOD HIM ASIDE.

Judge Gary held, however, that to be a legal juror one must be a qualified elector and presented an inquiry to that point. He was about to allow Parnell to go to his home 12 miles distant search for the certificate when Mr. Thurmond consented to accept his ruling with the exception of the room.

His honor ruled that taking Parnell's positive statement in connection with the apparent irregularity of the books, the jurymen were to stand by the juror's word. The jurymen were sworn, whereupon the solicitor excused Parnell and so yielded one of his five challenges. Parnell was the second man drawn, and after his case was disposed of the remaining 11 jurymen were rapidly secured.

The State had exhausted its challenges when eight or nine had been used and he had utilized all of his ten before the jury box was full.

THE JURORS.

Four of the 36, A. D. Fallow, Joel H. Geiger, T. W. Dreher and Simon Corley were excused by the court for one or another cause.

Of the jurymen selected Saylor, Risinger, Leitzey, Koon, Sharpe, Shealey and Price are farmers; Wood, Lybrand, Hootch and Jumper are cotton mill operatives, and John H. Carpenter, Wood is a boss of a weave room.

The following jurors drawn were challenged by the defense: M. M. Reckley, Eugene C. Williams, Luther J. Hook, J. Lawrence Jumper, John B. Stack, L. O. Wilson, C. M. Lewis, Thos. J. Roof, Geo. W. Derrick.

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THE PRISONER BROUGHT IN.

A recess of half an hour was taken at the solicitor's request, during which the prisoner was brought in by Sheriff Caughman. When the solicitor announced the State ready, Mr. Croft inquired: "Is Mr. Ambrose E. Gonzales in court?" and in response to a subpoena duces tecum issued for the defense he brought the files of the Columbia State for the years 1902, to September 15, 1903. Counsel for the State replied affirmatively, and Mr. Croft declared that though some of his witnesses were still absent they would be here and he could safely announce the defense ready.

The prisoner entered the small semi-octagonal dock, which is elevated about 12 inches from the floor, and stood in it for arraignment. On one side stood Mr. Croft, and on the other Mr. Nelson, Clerk of Court George Johnston, and the prisoner replying to the indictment in a matter of a few words, "Not guilty."

Mr. Croft, "Not guilty," and the prisoner replying to the indictment in a matter of a few words, "Not guilty."

FIGHTS FOR LIFE.

Tillman's Lawyers Want to Exclude the Dying Statement of the STATE'S DEAD EDITOR.

From the Ear of the Jury Who are to Say Whether Tillman is Guilty or Innocent.

The Tillman case is still being heard at Lexington. The first witness on Tuesday was Mr. Geo. M. Kohn. He testified as to how he got the bullet which killed Gonzales. He took it from a lad and turned it over to the sheriff. Dr. Gurry, Taylor and Pope were the next witnesses. Dr. Gurry said he did not have any hope for Gonzales from the first. He regarded his wound a fatal one. Dr. Taylor corroborated the above testimony. He described the course of the bullet. The bullet, he said, entered the back of the neck, passed through the brain, and came out of the forehead. He said that he was not certain of the position of the bullet, but he was certain of the position of the bullet. He said that he was not certain of the position of the bullet, but he was certain of the position of the bullet. He said that he was not certain of the position of the bullet, but he was certain of the position of the bullet.

COUNTRY SCHOOLS.

Some Things About Them That Parents Should Remember.

One of the greatest mistakes which many boards of school trustees make, says the Commoner, is to hire teachers with reference merely to the amount of salary stipulated for. A "cheap" teacher is generally an inexperienced one, to say the least, and country children are thereby robbed of the benefit of the best instruction. The country school, in too many instances, seems to be given over to the "pretence band" of young, inexperienced boys and girls, who should themselves be going to school and who will take it for the least money, regardless of fitness for the place, when the additional tax of a few cents for each taxpayer will give a sum that would hire a teacher who would not only be a blessing in the school room, but a power for untold good to the young people of the neighborhood.

In selecting a man to care for the stock, regard is had to his fitness for the work, and he is usually under surveillance; neglect or treatment tending to induce deterioration in value of the animals under his care, is at once resented by the owner. The wise farmer considers it poor economy to let a good hand go because of a few interior qualifications can be had for a few dollars a month less on his wages, and these wise precautions should be exercised to a much greater extent where our children are concerned. How many parents know what is going on in the school room, or even on the grounds, whether or not the teacher is even qualified to give oversight to the moral development of the children in his or her charge? What do the parents know, except by hearsay, (if even that) of the amount of intellectual growth the child is making, or if it is progressing? What do the parents know about the work of the teacher they have given the people? Whose business is it? Who makes it their business?

A farmer who would leave the care of the stock entirely to the hired man, who would never take it for the least consideration, would be considered a "hand," but very few parents visit the schools where their most precious belongings are learning more than book lore. Do you ever think that your indifference encourages any tendency the teacher may have to slight or neglect the school duties? When visitors are frequent, the teacher, as well as the pupils are anxious to have things in shape to merit approval, and we may not measure the good our presence and oversight may do to both. Even at the cost of a few additional dollars to yourself and others, you should insist on giving your children the best of a teacher whose broad knowledge, scholarly training and ambition to earn the wages given him, would result greatly to their advantage. Children, as a rule, care very little to go to school, except for the excitement of the play-ground, and the ordinary "cheap" teacher has neither the mental ability, moral capacity or scholarly training with which to awaken the interest, or arouse the mind of the little ones placed in his or her charge.

Found in a River.

The dead body of Robert Padgett, who has been missing for several days, was found Wednesday floating down the river at Williamston, N. C. It was in an upright position and people on a passing steamer thought the man was alive until within a few feet of the shore. Severe bruises were found on the forehead and indicated foul play. It was supposed it was not for the purpose of robbery, as the man's money was still in his pockets.

Killed by a Fall.

Mrs. M. D. Rowe, of West Point, Ga., as guest of her daughter, Mrs. S. T. Whitaker, in Columbus, Ga., had the misfortune to stumble and fall while going down the steps at their home, receiving injuries which proved fatal one week after the accident happened. She died in Columbus at 6.30 o'clock Wednesday night and her remains were brought to West Point, Ga., for interment this morning.

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